COCHIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Tuesday, *the 11th of December 1928.*
26th of Vrischigam 1104.

The House met at Half past Twelve of the Clock (it being New Moon day) with the President in the Chair. Mr. T.K. Nayar alone was absent.

Questions and Answers.

Cochin Teachers' Association.

86. **Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.**—Will the Government be pleased to place on the Council Table a copy of the resolutions of the last general meeting of the Cochin Teachers' Association held in Chingam 1103 and submitted by it to the Director of Public Instruction;

(1) and to state what steps have been taken by the Government to give effect to the resolutions referred to above;

(2) have any final orders been passed by the Government in regard to these;

(3) if so, what are those orders?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—A copy is appended. (*Vide Appendix I.*)

(1) Resolutions 1, 5, 6 and 11 were taken to the notice of the Special Finance Committee. Regarding resolution No. 13 the Secretary to the Board of Examiners was asked to do the needful. Since the question raised in resolution 14 was before the Legislative Council, no action was considered desirable. Resolution No. 8 was likewise dropped as demanding no consideration at present, as the University had already ordered a special investigation to be made into the working of the School Final Scheme and appointed a committee for the purpose. Regarding resolution 2, the Secretary was told that the practice followed was the same as in Madras. Item No. 1, Part 2, only those who have completed their certificates in one and the same examination are now allowed by the University to appear privately for the Intermediate Examination. The result is watched. Item No. 4, the Secretary has been informed that all service orders are published in the Gazette. As the Cochin Aided School Managers' Association was not in favour of the suggestion contained in resolution 12, it was dropped. The questions that remained unanswered were to come up before the last Headmasters' Conference; hence they were not separately considered and the Secretary was told so.

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(2) All the resolutions were not submitted to Government as the answer to (1) above will show. Government have not yet passed orders on the resolutions of the Headmasters' Conference.

(3) Vide (2) above.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—In regard to resolution No. 13 in the appendix in sub-division (1) the answer is that 'the Secretary to the Board of Examiners was asked to do the needful'. May I know whether anything has been done in the matter?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—He has been given instructions, and they will be carried out, when the next examination comes.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Can the House have an assurance on the point that it would be done?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—Clear instructions have been issued, and they will be carried out.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—In regard to resolution No. 8 in sub-division (1) the answer is that it was likewise dropped as demanding no consideration at present, as the University had already ordered a special investigation to be made into the working of the School Final Scheme and appointed a committee for the purpose. May I know whether any committee has been appointed?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—The University appointed a committee and I myself am a member of that committee.

Number of girls in the Vadakkancheri Schools.

87. Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Will the Government be pleased to place on the Table a list showing the number of female pupils on the rolls of the various forms of the Vadakkancheri High School for the last ten educational years;

(2) the number of girls on the rolls of the various classes of the Lower Secondary Department of the Girls' Lower Secondary School at Vadakkancheri since its opening;

(3) why is the Primary Department of the Girls' Lower Secondary School kept as a Vernacular School only?

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APPENDIX I.

(Vide answer to Question No. 86.)

Resolutions.

This meeting of the General Assembly of the Cochin Teachers' Association resolves:—

I. That the Director of Public Instruction be requested to move the Government:—

(1) That the minimun pay of all teachers be raised to Rs. 25 per mensem and that the time-scale of pay be introduced into the Educational service also, with due regard to the total service of teachers.

(2) That the system of giving supervision allowance to teachers who are appointed to supervise public examination be revised and that teachers in Government service be placed in this respect on a par with teachers in aided service.

(3) That inasmuch as the article allowing privilege leave (C. S. R. 131 and 133) does not seem to be given effect to in the case of Headmasters and Headmistresses, of assistants-in charge, during the vacation, they be given privilege leave on full pay, in the light of the said articles.

(4) That non-graduate teachers under training in Trichur be given a minimum stipend of Rs 20 per mensem.

(5) i. To make it compulsory on the part of all aided schools to join in the State Provident Fund for aided schools.

ii. That the rate of contribution of teachers and the Government be raised to one anna each per rupee.

iii. That the rules of the Provident Fund be modified so as to correspond to the rules in force in British schools.

(6) That early measures be taken to revise the Leave, Pension, Commutation of pension and Provident Fund Rules on the lines obtaining in British service.

(7) To abolish the half-time system, since the introduction of it makes it impossible for teachers to successfully go through the whole syllabus prescribed and since it seriously affects the discipline and attendance of pupils.

(8) That in view of the fact that school marks are not taken into account either for public service or for eligibility for University course the present system of maintaining School Final Certificate Books be dispensed with and that certificates be issued instead by the Board of Examiners, showing the marks of the candidates at the Public Examination.

(9) That the present system of comparative examinations for Feeder Schools be dropped in view of the fact that the syllabus is sufficient guidance for maintaining the standard, and that the expense and difficulty of sparing the services of a number of teachers at this time of the examination are not sufficiently compensated for by corresponding benefits.

(10) That the maximum strength of a class be reduced to 35, in view of the fact that War-conditions which forced up the strength have ceased to operate and the minimum be reduced to 20; and that for the purpose of grants these figures for maximum and minimum be considered sufficient.

(11) To sanction the appointments of Sanskrit Pandits and clerks to Lower Secondary Schools also; and to group Schools for Drawing and Drill where no provision is now made.

(12) To institute Managing Boards with due representation of the staff thereon, in all the recognised grant-in-aid schools in Cochin.

(13) That in place of the General Knowledge paper in the Scholarship Examination, a paper on History, Geography and Elementary Science taught in the classes be substituted,

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(14) That in the interests of economy and convenience teachers be permitted to attend school in a shirt and an upper cloth.

(15) To grant holidays for New Moon without compensation.

(16) To render the necessary financial help to the two representatives of the Cochin Teachers' Association proposed to be deputed to attend the Annual Sessions of the South India Teachers' Union.

2. That the Director of Public Instruction be requested to be pleased.—

(1) To address the University to accord sanction to the teachers who have passed the School Final Examination by parts, to appear as private candidates for the Intermediate Examination, provided that they have put in three years' service in a recognised institution after completing their School Final.

(2) That in the matter of selecting teachers for training, teachers already in service be preferred to private candidates.

(3) That no difference be made between a higher qualified and a lower qualified teacher in the matter of promotions after their entertainment in the service, within the scope laid down in the *Code*.

(4) To make arrangements to include the names of all teachers in the *Civil List* and publish all service orders in the Government Gazette.

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